

- 8 -

REMARKS

Please enter the above-listed amendments to the claims prior to examination. Claims 1-6 and 13-24 have been canceled without prejudice, and Applicants expressly reserve the right to prosecute claims 1-6 and 13-24, and similar claims in one or more Continuation Applications. Claims 25-39 have been added. Accordingly, Claims 7-12 and 25-39 are now pending and under consideration in this Application. Claims 7 and 25 are independent claims.

Restriction and Election

Claims 1-24 were subject to a Restriction Requirement under 35 USC §121. In particular, claims 1-6 were deemed to belong to Group I (i.e., a method for making a mono-axially oriented draw tape), claims 7-12 were deemed to belong to Group II (i.e., a mono-axially oriented draw tape), claims 13-18 were deemed to belong to Group III (i.e., a system for making a mono-axially oriented draw tape), claims 19-20 were deemed to belong to Group IV (i.e., a method of making a draw tape bag), claims 21 and 22 were deemed to belong to Group V (i.e., a draw tape bag), and claims 23-24 were deemed to belong to Group VI (i.e., a system for making a draw tape bag).

Applicants elect claims 7-12 which belong to Group II. Applicants' election is made without traverse.

In view of the amendments to the claims, claims 1-6 and 13-24 are now canceled, and claims 7-12 remain and are directed to draw tape. Applicants respectfully submit that no further restriction of claims 7-12 is required.

The Title

Applicants have replaced the Original Title with a New Title. The New Title is better-suited for the Application in view of the Restriction Requirement, as well as Applicants' Response and Preliminary Amendment.

Amendments to the Claims

Applicants have made minor clarifying amendments to claims 7-12. These amendments do not affect the Patent Office's grouping of the originally submitted claims.

Newly Added Claims

Claims 25-39 are newly added and are believed to be in allowable condition. Claims 25-31 depend from claim 7 and are directed to draw tape. Claim 32 is an independent claim and is directed to draw tape. Claims 33-39 depend from claim 32 and are directed to draw tape.

Support for features recited in claims 25-39 can be found in the Specification, for example, on page 9, line 3 through page 15, line 16; on page 19, line 8 through page 20, line 15; and in Figs. 1 through 7. No new matter has been added.

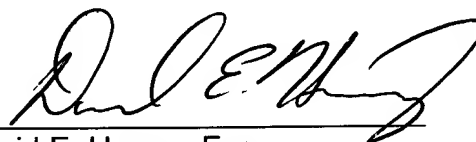
Conclusion

Favorable consideration of the Application is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, after this Preliminary Amendment, that the Application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the Applicants' Representative at the number below.

- 10 -

If there is a fee occasioned by this Preliminary Amendment that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge this fee to Deposit Account No. 50-0901.

Respectfully submitted,



David E. Huang, Esq.
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No.: 39,229
CHAPIN & HUANG, L.L.C.
Westborough Office Park
1700 West Park Drive
Westborough, Massachusetts 01581
Telephone: (508) 366-9600
Facsimile: (508) 616-9805
Customer No. 022468

Attorney Docket No.: FXI01-02

Dated: May 7, 2003